

*[English]***Review of Literacy Programme**

3808. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any review of literacy programmes, including Adult Literacy, Operation Black Board and non-formal education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for strengthening and improvement of the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The Department of Education constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Arun Ghosh for making Status-cum-Impact evaluation of the Total Literacy Campaigns. The Group observed that the National Literacy Mission's Total Literacy Campaign approach with its transformative implications has resulted in positive impact on women, enrolment in primary education, sensitization of bureaucracy and in generation of social activists. The Group recommended that the objective of fully eradicating illiteracy be replaced by the objective of developing and deepening a learning society and that the Literacy Campaign and the Post Literacy and Continuing Education phases should be one continuum. The Group recommended greater attention to the Hindi speaking States.

(c) Some of the New strategies evolved for strengthening and improvement of the programme are indicated below:

- (i) Operation Restoration of campaign projects which could not achieve desired objective.
- (ii) Preparation of time-bound action plans for TLÇ coverage of uncovered districts in the States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.
- (iii) Establishment of strong linkages between the literacy programme and other development programmes.
- (iv) Decentralisation and delegation of authority for implementation of literacy programmes to State Government by establishment of State Literacy Mission Authorities (SLMAs).

Growth Rate of Port Facilities

3809. SHRI CHUNCHUN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative annual growth rate of port facilities in the country as compared with the country's annual growth in the international trade;

(b) the extent to which the projected growth of Indian ports during the last three plan periods has been achieved, stating the reasons for short-fall in the projected growth;

(c) whether the Government propose to open up certain areas of port operations to private entrepreneurs; and

(d) if so, the decision, if any, taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b). Since the beginning of the 6th plan in 1980-81 the cargo handling capacity of the major ports in the country has gone up from 101.3 million tonnes to 177.45 million tonnes in 1995-96 registering a compounded growth rate of around 4%. The traffic handled by the major ports has increased from 61.54 million tonnes to 215.26 million tonnes during the corresponding period registering a compounded growth rate of about 7%. By the end of 8th plan the port capacity was planned to be enhanced to 216 million tonnes. However, due to slippages in implementation of some of the externally aided projects, this will now be achieved in early 9th plan.

(c) and (d). The port sector in India has already been opened up for private sector participation in certain identified areas.

Joint Venture to Build Roads

3810. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of MOUs signed with domestic, foreign and joint venture companies to build roads in India, the names of the companies, the countries they belong to and the dates on which the MOUs were signed;

(b) the total estimated cost of these projects; and

(c) the number of projects taken up for construction and the likely date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Ministry of Surface Transport and Government of Maharashtra entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited, Bombay (IL & FS) on 5.2.93 and again entered into an extended MOU on 9.1.95 with IL & FS for the construction of Panvel bypass in Maharashtra under BOT Scheme.

(b) and (c). The proposal is still in detailing stage.